



Central office
309 N. Washington Square, Suite 011 • Lansing MI 48933
Phone (517) 485-8552 • Fax (517) 485-6680
Elizabeth A. Carey, Executive Director

Metro Detroit office
18010 Muirland • Detroit MI 48221
Phone (313) 340-0608 • Fax (313) 340-0614
Verlie M. Ruffin, Associate Director

Web site
www.michfed.org

Email
lansing@michfed.org
elizabeth@michfed.org
verlie@michfed.org
rose@michfed.org
jenny@michfed.org

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Testimony on SB 308
House Judiciary Committee

Good Morning Chairman Van Regenmorter and all House Judiciary
Committee members.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak briefly with you this morning.

My name is Elizabeth Carey and I am Executive Director of the Michigan
Federation for Children and Families. The Federation is a statewide
association of private, nonprofit, child and family serving agencies,
advocacy organizations and individuals interested in protecting children,
building families and strengthening communities. The Federation has
advocated for children and families since 1969.

I am here today on behalf of the membership of the Federation to
voice our support of SB 308. We have analyzed the current statutes and
agree that this amendment of the PA 33 of 1978 regarding dissemination,
exhibiting, or displaying of certain sexually explicit matter to minors is
necessary and important to protect children and allow our criminal justice
system to prosecute suspected offenders.

All too often in Michigan, and across the country, children are
abused and victimized by the very people who are responsible for the
safety and protection – their parents and guardians.

FULL MEMBERS

Bethany Christian Services
D.A. Blodgett for Children
Catholic Charities of Shiawassee
& Genesee Counties
Catholic Social Services—
Grand Rapids
Catholic Social Services
of Oakland County
Child & Family Service
of Saginaw County
Child & Family Services, Capital
Area
Child & Family Services
of Northeast Michigan
Child & Family Services
of Northwestern Michigan
Children's Home of Detroit
Christ Child House
Florence Crittenton Services
Eagle Village
Family & Children's Service of
Midland
Family Counseling & Children's
Service of Lenawee County
Family Outreach Center
Federation of Youth Services
Forever Families
Girldstown Foundation
Good Will Farm
Homes for Black Children
Icon of Youth & Family Services
Judson Center
LDS Family Services
Lula Belle Stewart Center
Lutheran Child & Family
Service of Michigan
Lutheran Social Services of
Michigan
Lutheran Social Services of
Wisconsin & Upper Michigan
The Manor
Promise Village: Home for
Children
St. John's Home
St. Vincent Catholic Charities
St. Vincent & Sarah Fisher
Center
Spaulding for Children
Starr Commonwealth
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Wedgwood Christian Services
Whaley Children's Center

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
Michigan Home-Based Family
Services Association
Michigan Network for Youth &
Families
Michigan State University School
of Social Work
National Association of Social
Workers—Michigan Chapter
Network 180
Upper Peninsula Children's
Coalition

We support the efforts of Sen. Olshove and the bi-partisan support within the Senate to pass SB 308 to address this serious and difficult issue to protect children from exploitation and abuse.

One suggestion raised by a member of our association would be to update the listing of licensed professionals under section 6(c) to include licensed social workers, licensed nurses and licensed psychiatrists. This could also be accomplished by citing "all licensed professionals" since their licenses have clear guidelines and rules for conduct that would require them to act within the law and within ethical codes of conduct when treating a client.

Again, the Michigan Federation for Children and Families supports the passage of SB 308. Thank you for your time.

Elizabeth Carey
Executive Director